BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:

Gloria Malone, Ph.D.

Former Holder of License No. PSY-001082
for the Practice of Psychology
in the State of Arizona

License Voluntarily Surrendered
July 12, 2019

COMPLAINT NO. T-22-05

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

On April 8, 2022, the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") met in open session for the purposes of determining whether grounds existed to issue a Cease and Desist Order to Gloria Malone, Ph.D. ("Respondent"). Respondent's attorney appeared virtually on Respondent's behalf.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On June 1, 1984, Respondent was issued a psychologist license by the Board.
- 2. On July 12, 2019, the Board accepted a signed Consent Agreement by Respondent for the voluntary surrender of her psychologist license subsequent to receiving a complaint alleging that Respondent had engaged in unprofessional conduct. The effective date of the license surrender was July 12, 2019.
- 3. On January 2, 2022, Board staff received an email from an individual who expressed concern that Respondent was holding herself out as a psychologist and advertising her services on the Nextdoor application, which is a social platform that connects neighbors based on their location and allows them to share information. The individual who emailed Board staff attached a screenshot of Respondent's post from Nextdoor, in which Respondent submitted a reply on December 26, 2021, to a neighbor who was looking for therapist referral. Dr. Malone replied, "I'm Dr Gloria Malone, PhD, Psychologist. I welcome new patients. I currently operate from my home office, and my patients are very comfortable and pleased with their surroundings. Please

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contact me if you are interested in my services."

- 4. Board staff subsequently opened a complaint, no. T-22-05, for further investigation, as it appeared that Respondent was in violation of Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 32-2084.
 - 5. Respondent's attorney responded to the complaint in writing, indicating that:
 - a. "[Respondent] does not hold herself out as a licensed psychologist, and she is not practicing clinical psychology. However, and unfortunately, she did not realize that, despite her education, undergraduate and numerous postgraduate degrees, training, and experience, ARS § 32-2084 prohibited her from even referring to herself as a psychologist."
 - b. Immediately upon receiving the complaint notification letter, Respondent discontinued referring to herself as a psychologist and will no longer do that.
 - c. Respondent is now in full compliance with A.R.S. § 32-2084.
 - d. She is not practicing psychology, she does not hold herself out as a licensed psychologist, and she will no longer use the protected designations for any purpose.
 - e. Although Respondent is in complete compliance with the statute now, she would willingly, and without objection, agree to the entry of a Cease and Desist Order, should the Board feel it is appropriate.
- 6. On March 25, 2022, the Board's Complaint Screening Committee ("Committee") reviewed Complaint No. T-22-05. Respondent and her attorney were not present. After deliberation, the Committee voted to forward the complaint to the full board for further review based on a possible violation of A.R.S. § 32-2084, as it appeared that Respondent continued to practice psychology after surrendering her license in 2019 and was advertising that she is a licensed psychologist. The Committee noted that Respondent's Nextdoor post was not removed until multiple inquiries from Board staff after receiving the response. The Committee also noted that in Respondent's response to the Board, there was no confirmation that she has not seen clients since surrendering her psychologist license in 2019, even though her Nextdoor

1 2	The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners 1740 West Adams St., Suite 3403 Phoenix, Arizona 85007
3	COPY of the foregoing sent by regular mail
4	this 26 day of April 2022, to:
5	Gloria Malone, Ph.D.
6	Address on Record Respondent
7 8	COPY of the foregoing sent by regular mail this 26 day of April 2022, to:
9 10	Harry Howe, Esq. Harry L. Howe P.C. 8776 East Shea Blvd.
11	Suite #106/302 Scottsdale, AZ 85260
12 13	
14	COPY of the foregoing via email (jeanne.galvin@azag.gov) this <u>26</u> day of April 2022, with:
15	Jeanne M. Galvin
16	Assistant Attorney General 2005 North Central Ave. SGD/LES
17	Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Attorney for the State of Arizona
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19	D. Carrier Market Mark
20	By: <u>Jennifer Michaelsen</u>
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